# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3415
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2008
WORLD HOCKEY QUALIFYING CHAMPIONSHIP HELD IN CHILE
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Khan Shri Sunil;Nikhil Kumar Shri ;Shivanna Shri M

**Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Indian Hockey team failed to qualify for the Beijing Olympic, 2008 during the World Hockey Qualifying Championship held recently in Chile;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to revisit the causes of poor performance of the Indian Hockey team in the aforesaid Qualifying Championship; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the concrete steps taken by the Government to promote sports in the country?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. India lost to Great Britain in the finals of World Men`s hockey Olympic qualifiers.

(c) & (d) : The Government supplements the efforts of recognized National Sports Federations (NSFs) for the promotion of excellence in sports, including hockey. Apart from providing support for holding national coaching camps through the Sports Authority of India (SAI), the Government also provides assistance for the participation of national teams in training and competitions within and outside the country and the engagement of high performing coaches. Specifically in hockey, the Government has engaged a high performance foreign expert as Technical Adviser to provide technical support to the national men and women teams as also junior national teams. In addition to this, talented sportspersons in the age group of 14-21 are trained under various schemes of SAI, including in SAI Training Centres and SAI Special Area Games Centres, a large number of which have hockey among the disciplines in which training is imparted.